

Story of The Storm

Terrible Tales of Shipping Disasters (on the British Coast. The Gale None of the Worst Known for Many Years. Even Fate of Some of Cross Channel Steamers in Doubt.

London, Dec. 28.—Incessant reports of Londoner shipping casualties show that the gale was one of the worst known in many years. Probably several days will elapse before the full extent of the damage becomes known.

In addition to some vessels, not yet identified, which have been wrecked or placed in great danger, the fate of some of the cross channel mail steamers is in doubt. For instance, the Great Western Railway Company's steamer flying between Milford and Waterford, is twelve hours overdue and no tidings of her have yet been received.

In response to rockets from Eddystone Light, Plymouth sent a dory with a lifeboat to assist what was reported to be a large steamer in distress in the channel.

The endangered vessel is the Mercury, last reported arrived at Bilbao Bay on November 29, from Boulogne, which had sought shelter in Portland roads. It is believed that the crew can be saved.

A terrible accident took place near Taunton, the breakwater at Watchet Harbor yielded to the force of the gale and became a wreck, permitting a tremendous sea to have full play against the shipping in the harbor. Several vessels broke adrift, two foundered and five others were driven into hopeless straits in a corner between a pier and a wharf, where they lay grinding each other. Their masts and bows were broken and their hulls were greatly battered. The damage will reach many thousands of pounds.

The mail steamer Victoria while shipping mails and baggage yesterday at Folkestone, broke from her moorings and was obliged to put to sea. It is not known yet whether she has taken shelter.

The Austrian bark Capricorn was driven ashore near Rado, Cornwall. Nine of the crew were drowned, one was saved and four commuted. This plan with little likelihood of being rescued.

According to a Johannesburg despatch of Friday's date, Gen. French occupied Ventersburg that day without opposition. This place being a great telegraphic centre, has been much used by the Boers for the dissemination of information.

The possession of Ventersburg, Rietburg and Zerrust gives the British a strong hold upon this part of the country.

From Carnarvon, under yesterday's date, comes a despatch saying that the Boers occupied Vervoren on December 27, in force, and were reported to be moving on Carnarvon, where martial law has been proclaimed. The farmers have secured the authorities that they will remain loyal and will suppress disloyal talk.

It is creditably reported, according to a despatch from Newcastle, dated December 29, that Louis Botha has informed the Commandant Kruger that he has sent word that the burghers must lay down their arms or continue fighting on their own account, no support from Europe can be expected.

Craderock, Cape Colony, Friday, Dec. 27.—Kimberley is almost isolated by Boer raiders. No mail had reached there from December 19 to December 25. Provisions are at famine prices. The military took charge of all the food stuff on December 27. The Leinster regiment, commanded by Major Barry, had a skirmish lasting four hours with the Boers at Drientfontein, on December 27, suffering slight losses. The Boers at Gekuk captured a convoy of 25 wagons on Christmas Eve.

Padrebrwsk. He Denies the Story That He Fought a Duel. London, Dec. 28.—"M. Padrebrwsk," says the Vienna correspondent of the Daily Telegraph, "denies the story that he recently fought a duel to be an invention. He asserts that the nervous attack from which he has been suffering has greatly diminished."

Chinese Court Does Not Want to Allow Permanent Legation Guards. Pekin, Dec. 27.—Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching, the Chinese peace commissioners have heard from the Emperor Kwang Hsu.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 27.—The Novor Vremya's Vladivostok correspondents stand by the story that the Russian government is about to take over the Manchurian railway. He says Commander Keller has left Vladivostok to before the government to the government's representatives.

If you had taken one of Carter's Little Liver Pills before retiring you would not have had that coated tongue, keep a vial with you for occasional use.

CONTRACTS FOR CRUISERS.

One Will Be Built in Vancouver and One in Victoria.

Ottawa, Dec. 28.—Contracts were awarded to-day for two cruisers for British Columbia, one to be used at the mouth of the Fraser, the other for protection of the sea fisheries.

The contract for the large cruiser, which is to be used on the Pacific Coast, has been awarded to A. Walker, Vancouver, B. C. This steamer is to be 136 feet long over all, breadth 24 feet, hold 10 feet, depth moulded 11 feet, three-masted and classed 11 years "A1" at Lloyd's. It will carry 150 tons of coal.

The small cruiser is to be 60 feet long, 11 broad and 6 feet depth. The contract goes to the Albion Iron Works, Victoria, B. C. The price is between \$7,000 and \$8,000.

A condition of the contract is that the fair wage resolution will be embodied in it.

ARIZONA HOLD UP.

Old Fashioned Western Crime's Surprise for the Stage.

Phoenix, Ariz., Dec. 28.—A lone highwayman held up the Hot Springs Junction stage last evening, securing about \$50 from the express box. It is reported that an important consignment of gold dust from a mine near Hot Springs formed part of the booty. The bandit conducted operations quietly and disappeared in the night. The stage driver hurried on to Hot Springs Junction, where a posse was organized and is now on the trail of the robber.

Kimberley Threatened

Provisions in the Town are Now Reported as Famine Prices.

But the General News From South Africa is Very Bright.

London, Dec. 28.—Last night's cable despatches from South Africa add little or nothing to the information concerning the situation there. The general trend of events seems to show that the British are regaining the ground recently lost.

A Standerton despatch, dated December 28, says it is estimated that 2,000 Boers were engaged in the operations in North Natal, hoping to break the British communications. This plan failed, and the Boers were driven off in confusion.

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Rumors of Dewet's Capture

Persistent Reports in London That Boer Leader is a Prisoner.

The War Office However has no Confirmation to Give.

London, Dec. 28.—Persistent rumors are in circulation in London and on the continent that General Dewet has been captured.

The British Chartered South African company received this information from a source in which it is accustomed to place implicit confidence.

The war office, however, is without any confirmation of the rumors. It is stated that the British Government has no information to give.

London, Dec. 28.—A pushing campaign has been carried on by the Portelli under today's date. The steamer Canada, with Lord Roberts aboard, arrived here today. The steamer was in the harbor and received a great ovation.

The Canada will resume her voyage tonight for Ottawa. The stage driver hurried on to Hot Springs Junction, where a posse was organized and is now on the trail of the robber.

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MORE EXPEDITIONS.

Marshal von Waldsee Reports Sending Out Columns From Lien Shan.

Berlin, Dec. 28.—An official denial has been issued here of the report from Pekin published in a New York newspaper that differences have arisen between Field Marshal Count von Waldsee and Dr. Munster von Schwartzstein, the German minister at Pekin, over a question of precedence.

The war office has received the following despatch from Count von Waldsee: "Pekin, Dec. 28.—A column commanded by Major von Medel will start tomorrow for San Ho Hsien to co-operate with the Grueber expedition which left Tien Tsin on December 19 for Xuen Tsin."

A United States detachment will leave Pekin tomorrow via Hang Ho Hsien with the same object.

The Chinese who were defeated by the French on December 22 fled in a southerly direction.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The Chinese embassy here is without information on the report that Emperor Hsuan-tsun has done not approve the demand submitted by the powers. For some days, however, the view has prevailed in Chinese quarters that it would be difficult to secure their acceptance. The state department had received nothing from Mr. Conger to indicate that the Emperor opposed the acceptance of the peace terms and the officials continue to be hopeful that there will be an early acceptance.

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Effects Of Smash

London Failures Will Not Have Much Effects on Roseland.

Mines are Working on Their Own Merits as Paying Concerns.

British Columbia Mining Men Takes a Hopeful View of Situation.

Roseland, Dec. 28.—The suspension of the London and Globe in London yesterday caused considerable excitement here. But from the best sources of information available, it was evident that it will not affect this camp unfavorably. The London and Globe has a capital of £13,000,000. It is the parent corporation of the British Columbia Mining Co., Roseland; Whittaker Wright was the leading spirit. It is the parent company of the British Columbia Mining Co., Roseland; Whittaker Wright was the leading spirit.

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SHOOTING ACCIDENT.

Langley Rancher Has His Arm Shattered.

Vancouver, Dec. 29.—(Special)—William Best, a rancher at Langley, while out shooting yesterday met with a very serious accident. In climbing over a fence his gun discharged, shattering his left arm, necessitating amputation. No boot being on hand, the sufferer was obliged to wait for twenty-four hours before he could be taken to hospital.

Alex. Hoy, Coquitlan, was taken to New Westminster to-day with a knee-cap split open, the result of an accident while blowing from an axe. His condition is serious.

MARRIED AT WELLINGTON.

Pretty Ceremony at Little Mining Town on Christmas Eve.

A very pretty wedding took place at St. Matthew's church, Wellington, on Christmas Eve, the high contracting parties being Mr. Alfred Taylor, of Goldstream, and Miss Elizabeth Thomas, eldest daughter of the late Capt. Thomas, of Cardiff, Wales. The groom was supported by Mr. Hugh G. Bellamy, son of the late doctor of the naval hospital, Esquimalt; while the bride was attended by Miss and Miss Sarah Williams, of Esquimalt. The bride was attired in cream cashmere, trimmed with flosses of deep lace and blue satin, with veil and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums. The chief bridesmaid was Miss Elizabeth Thomas, of Esquimalt. The bride was attired in cream cashmere, trimmed with flosses of deep lace and blue satin, with veil and orange blossoms, and carried a bouquet of white chrysanthemums. The chief bridesmaid was Miss Elizabeth Thomas, of Esquimalt.

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